



NEWS RELEASE

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PRESENTS CERTIFICATE TO THE CITY OF HOLCOMB

In recognition of the 36th Annual Earth Day, Greg Branum, State Director for USDA Rural Development in Missouri presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the City of Holcomb for its recently completed sewer system. The City received a loan of \$450,000 and a grant of \$260,000 from Rural Development to fund this project. The Missouri Department of Economic Development provided \$500,000 in grant funds. Branum stated, "This project is truly a partnership effort between local, state, and federal government. The ability of everyone to work together for the benefit of the citizens of Holcomb is how government should and is working."



"Clean water is critical to the health of the environment and economy," said Senator Kit Bond. "Today's funds will go a long way in meeting this community's water needs. I will continue to work with the USDA and local leaders in our efforts to improve the quality of life for families in Holcomb."

"This is great news for the people in Holcomb," said U.S. Sen. Jim Talent, a member of the Senate Agriculture Committee. "This funding will upgrade and expand the water distribution systems currently in place to provide a safe and clean water source for dozens of new users. This is an example of how the federal government is partnering with the local community to meet the needs of area residents."

"The City of Holcomb has put a great amount of effort into completing their new sewer system. The finished project is a substantial boost to the wastewater infrastructure and a great example of cooperation at the local, state, and federal levels of government. I'd like to congratulate everyone who worked hard on this effort and to thank our U.S. Senators, Kit Bond and Jim Talent, for their continued interest and support for the Rural Development program, which identifies these types of opportunities," U.S. Representative Jo Ann Emerson said.

Mayor Max D. Clark stated "On behalf of the City of Holcomb and the Holcomb community, we appreciate all the assistance and financial support from the U S Department of Agriculture and the local Rural Development offices. With this project, we are able to provide wastewater service to our residents that enhances our environment and for the future development of our community."

Branum added, “Appreciation is extended to U.S. Senators “Kit” Bond and Jim Talent and U.S. Representative Jo Ann Emerson for supporting USDA Rural Development. Economic development, the creation of jobs and funding essential services mirror the Agency’s mission and President Bush’s initiative of increasing economic opportunity in rural communities and improving the quality of life of rural residents”.

Further information on rural programs is available by visiting USDA’s web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or contact Tresia Webb, Rural Development Manager at Kennett Local Office, 704 North Bypass , Kennett, Missouri 63857 or by calling (573) 888-6664 extension 4.

“Committed to the future of rural communities.”

“USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.”

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